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ABSTRACT

The invention provides herbal compositions with antiviral properties comprising extracts of *Foeniculum vulgare*, *Nigella sativa*, *Centaureum erythrae* (spicatum or pulchellum), *Cynara cardunculus* var scolymus, *Inula helenium* (viscosa), *Solenostema argel*, *Sesbania aegyptiaca* (sesban), *Cichorium intybus* (pumilum), *Cymbopogon proximus*, *Hemidesmus indicus*, *Rheum officinale*, *Cuminum cyminum*, and combinations thereof. The invention further provides herbal compositions with antiviral properties comprising an extract from the leaves or seed of *Sesbania aegyptiaca* (sesban) and at least one additional herbal extract selected from the group consisting of seed of *Nigella sativa*, shoot of *Cichorium intybus* (pumilum), whole plant of *Cymbopogon proximus*, rhizome of *Hemidesmus indicus*, leaves of *Solenostema argel*, rhizome of *Rheum officinale*, and fruit of *Ecballium elaterium*. The present invention also provides methods for treating a subject with a viral infection, particularly infections with hepatitis B virus or hepatitis C virus. The methods comprise administering to a subject an effective amount of a herbal composition selected from among the herbal compositions of the invention.